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THE Wool SITUATION

BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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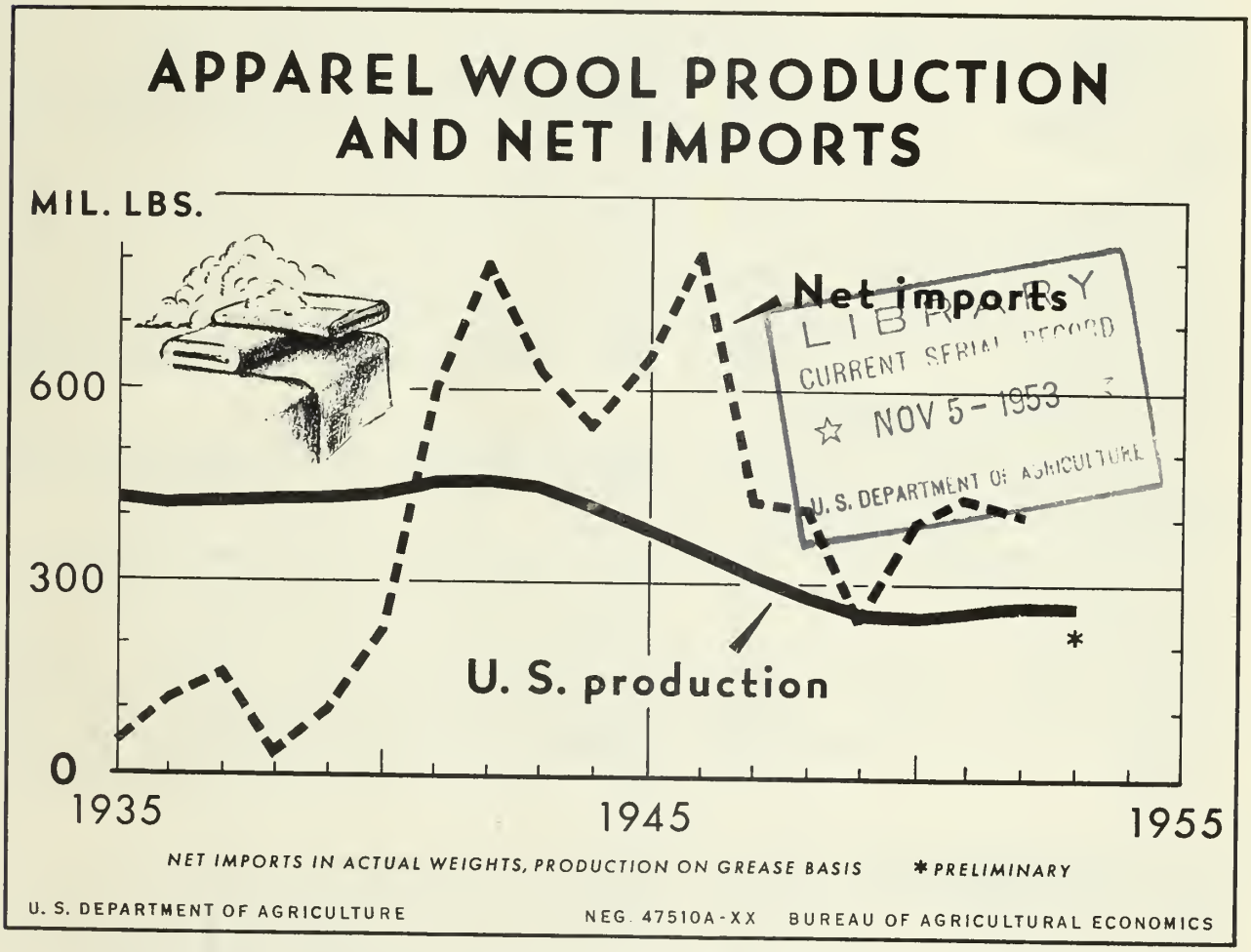

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Total production of wool in the United States this year is about the same as last year. Output of shorn wool is down a little, while the quantity of wool pulled is up somewhat. A slight further decline in production of shorn wool is likely next year.

Both imports and mill consumption of apparel wool declined last year. Although mills used considerably more wool for the manufacture of civilian goods last year than in 1951, the use of wool for military goods declined sharply. Mill consumption of wool this year has been well above 1952, but imports have been below last year.

STATISTICAL SUMMARY
Part I - Prices

Item	Unit	1952 June	1952 July	1952 Aug.	1952 Sept.	1953 June	1953 July	1953 Aug.	1953 Sept.	Last data available as percent of a year earlier
Average price received by farmers, grease basis	Cents per pound	53.1	53.2	53.0	52.2	55.6	53.9	53.0	52.9	101
Parity price	Cents per pound	59.8	59.8	60.0	59.4	57.8	58.4	58.4	58.2	98
Farm as percent of parity	Percent	89	89	88	88	96	92	91	91	
Boston market prices, clean basis 1/	Cents per									
Domestic wool	pound									
Graded territory										
Fine good French combing and staple	do.	160.0	162.7	166.0	159.6	174.8	172.5	172.5	172.5	108
1/2 blood good French combing and staple	do.	140.0	146.0	147.5	143.8	151.5	149.5	152.5	152.5	106
3/8 blood good French combing and staple	do.	120.0	132.0	135.0	127.5	132.0	132.2	132.2	131.7	103
1/4 blood good French combing and staple	do.	117.5	125.5	127.5	120.0	122.5	122.5	122.0	120.5	100
Low 1/4 blood	do.	97.5	101.9	103.0	95.1	102.5	102.5	102.5	102.5	108
Common and braid	do.	92.5	96.5	97.5	88.1	97.5	97.5	97.5	97.5	111
Graded fleece										
Delaine	do.	160.0	163.0	166.0	162.2	178.0	177.9	177.5	178.5	110
1/2 blood good French combing and staple	do.	136.5	143.6	144.5	140.5	143.5	144.5	148.5	147.0	105
3/8 blood good French combing and staple	do.	110.5	112.2	114.4	112.0	119.9	118.9	117.4	120.0	107
1/4 blood good French combing and staple	do.	104.4	105.4	105.9	105.2	112.8	111.0	112.5	113.2	108
Low 1/4 blood	do.	95.0	97.0	97.5	90.0	106.0	106.0	106.0	106.0	118
Common and braid	do.	87.5	91.5	92.5	81.2	95.0	95.0	95.0	95.0	117
Original bag Texas										
Fine 12 months good French combing and staple	do.	161.2	168.1	170.5	162.6	185.0	182.5	181.2	182.5	112
Fine 8 months (1" and over)	do.	147.5	159.0	155.0	144.4	168.8	167.5	167.5	167.5	116
Fine fall (3/4" and over)	do.	137.5	144.5	142.5	135.0	150.1	152.5	152.5	153.0	113
Imported wool, excluding duty										
Australian										
64's, 70's warp and 1/2 warp	do.	147.5	147.5	149.8	149.8	182.5	182.5	182.5	182.5	122
64's, 70's good topmaking	do.	142.5	142.5	142.5	142.5	177.5	177.8	178.0	178.0	125
64's combing	do.	135.0	135.0	138.8	139.4	172.5	172.5	172.5	172.5	124
58's, 60's combing	do.	127.5	127.5	123.8	121.2	147.5	147.5	147.5	147.5	122
Montevideo super										
0's (58's, 60's)	do.	121.5	121.5	121.5	121.5	127.0	125.5	125.5	125.5	103
1's (56's)	do.	107.5	107.2	107.0	107.0	104.2	112.5	111.0	111.0	104
2's (50's)	do.	95.5	94.3	93.5	93.5	96.5	104.8	104.5	104.5	112
3's (46's, 48's)	do.	81.5	82.4	83.0	83.0	84.5	94.5	94.5	94.5	114
4's (44's)	do.	74.5	73.9	73.5	73.5	86.0	86.2	86.5	86.5	118
5's (40's)	do.	72.5	73.1	73.5	73.5	86.0	86.2	86.5	86.5	118
Other textile fibers										
Cotton, middling 15/16" 2/	do.	40.4	39.4	39.4	38.9	33.2	33.4	33.0	32.8	84
Man-made synthetic staple fiber										
Viscose, 1-1/2 denier 3/	do.	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	34.0	34.0	34.0	34.0	85
Acetate, 5 denier 3/	do.	42.0	42.0	42.0	42.0	34.0	34.0	34.0	34.0	81
Nylon, 3 denier 4/	do.	---	---	---	---	170.0	170.0	170.0	170.0	
Dacron, 3, 4.5, and 6 denier 4/	do.	---	---	---	---	180.0	180.0	180.0	180.0	
Orlon, 3, 4.5, and 6 denier 4/	do.	190.0	190.0	190.0	190.0	190.0	190.0	190.0	190.0	100
Acrilan, 3 and 5 denier 4/	do.	---	---	---	---	185.0	185.0	185.0	185.0	
Dynel, 2, 3, 6, 12, and 24 denier 4/	do.	128.0	128.0	128.0	128.0	128.0	128.0	128.0	128.0	100
Vicara, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 7 denier 4/	do.	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100

1/ From PMA Boston market reports.
2/ Average of 10 markets.
3/ From Textile Organon.
4/ From Modern Textile Magazine.

THE WOOL SITUATION

Approved by the Outlook and Situation Board, October 23, 1953

SUMMARY

Wool prices in general probably will be relatively stable through the current selling season in Australia which ends next June in the absence of any change in the international situation. The average of prices received by domestic producers for the 1954 clip probably will not be greatly different from this year. The average for the 1953 season probably will be slightly above both last year and the national average support level of 53.1 cents.

Prices received by domestic growers for shorn wool during the first 6 months of the current marketing season, which began in April, averaged slightly above last year, reflecting the generally higher level of world wool prices. The mid-month averages for the first 4 months were above the national average support level but for August and September were just below.

Prices of wool in Australia since the opening of the current selling season have fluctuated near the closing prices of last June and have been slightly above those of a year earlier. Quotations at Boston for domestic wools early in October were well above a year earlier. Quotations for most fine, half, and three-eighths blood wools were above loan rates while those for most quarter blood and lower wools were at or slightly below loan rates.

The world supply of wool for the 1953-54 season is expected to be about the same as for 1952-53. A slight increase in world production is expected, but world stocks probably are lower. Although total stocks in the major consuming countries are up, the increase probably is somewhat less than the reduction in holdings of unsold wool in the Southern Hemisphere exporting countries.

United States production probably will be lower next year. The rate of sheep and lamb slaughter this year suggests a reduction in the number of stock sheep and shorn wool production in 1954. If sheep and lamb slaughter declines next year as now appears likely, production of pulled wool also would be reduced.

World consumption of wool during the first half of this year is estimated to have been about one-fifth over early 1952. The total for all of 1952 was slightly above that of 1951. After the rate of consumption reached a post-World War II low in the third quarter of 1951, it increased for 7 successive quarters.

Mill use of apparel wool in the United States during the first half of this year was about one-fifth above last year. Consumption appears to have leveled off and the total for the year probably will exceed that of last year by a smaller percentage than in the first half. With economic activity and consumer purchasing power at about present levels and no great change in defense requirements, mill consumption next year probably will be nearly the same as this year. Indications are that inventories of wool goods in manufacturing and distribution channels relative to retail sales are about normal.

Survey of Recent Developments

Wool Prices in Foreign Markets

Prices of wool at the opening sales of the 1953-54 season in Australia about September 1 ranged from about the same as to about 5 percent above those at the closing sales last June. Prices since then have fluctuated near the closing June levels. Prices declined somewhat toward the close of the 1952-53 season after having advanced almost continuously from April 1952 until early June 1953.

Prices of most fine wools at the opening sales were between 15 and 20 percent above a year earlier and 40 to 45 percent above the lows of March 1952.

Prices at the London auctions have followed prices in the British Dominions rather closely (table 1).

Boston Quotations Continue Fairly Stable

Quotations at Boston for both domestic and imported wools have been relatively stable this year.

Quotations for Australian fine wools as of mid-October were about 5 cents per pound, clean basis, higher than early in the year and about 25 cents higher than a year earlier. Quotations for Australian wools so far this year have been above last year. Quotations for Montevideo 3's (similar to domestic low quarter blood) and finer super wools now range up to 10 cents higher than early in the year. Increases over a year earlier range from 4 cents for 1's (similar to domestic three-eighths blood) and finer to 13 cents for 4's and 5's (similar to domestic common and braid wools). Quotations for Montevideo 2's and finer wools, which during early months of the year were below a year earlier, have been above last year since then. Quotations for coarser Montevideo wools have been above last year since the beginning of the year.

Quotations for domestic graded territory wools have changed little since the beginning of the current marketing season but have been above a year earlier (table 2). As of mid-October, quotations for original bag Texas fine wools ranged from 5 cents to 10 cents above early in the year and have been well above last year since the opening of the marketing season. Graded fleece delaine and half-blood good French combing and staple are now quoted 7 and 5 cents, respectively, over last March, while quotations for most other fleece wools are about the same. Quotations for fleece wools have been above a year earlier since the beginning of the marketing season.

As of mid-October, quotations for most fine, half, and three-eighths blood wools were above loan rates while those for most quarter blood and lower wools were at or slightly below loan rates (table 3).

STATISTICAL SUMMARY
Part II - Supplies and Mill Activity

Item	Unit	1952 Apr.	1952 May	1952 June	1952 July	1953 Apr.	1953 May	1953 June	1953 July 1/	Last data available as percent of a year earlier
Imports for consumption, clean content	Million pounds									
Dutiable 2/	do.	24.0	22.1	17.0	20.9	18.9	14.3	14.7	13.0	62
Finer than 56's	do.	16.1	14.1	10.0	12.7	11.8	8.3	8.5	6.9	54
44's - 56's	do.	4.8	4.3	4.3	4.1	2.8	3.0	2.8	3.0	73
40's - 44's	do.	1.3	1.7	1.4	1.9	1.1	0.7	1.0	0.6	32
Not finer than 40's	do.	1.5	1.6	1.0	1.7	2.9	2.0	2.1	2.3	135
Donskoi, Smyrna, etc.	do.	0.1	0.4	0.3	0.5	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.2	40
Duty-free	do.	9.8	8.0	7.1	9.1	10.3	10.1	6.9	17.2	189
Donskoi, Smyrna, etc.	do.	6.5	5.2	4.9	6.8	4.8	5.5	4.1	8.0	118
Not finer than 40's	do.	3.3	2.8	2.2	2.3	5.5	4.6	2.8	9.2	400
Accumulated since January 1										
Dutiable 2/	do.	81.3	103.4	120.3	141.2	74.5	88.8	103.5	116.4	82
Finer than 56's	do.	57.0	71.2	81.1	93.8	50.4	58.6	67.1	74.0	79
44's - 56's	do.	14.2	18.5	22.8	26.9	10.8	13.9	16.6	19.6	73
40's - 44's	do.	4.0	5.7	7.0	8.9	2.7	3.4	4.5	5.1	57
Not finer than 40's	do.	5.2	6.8	7.8	9.5	9.5	11.5	13.6	15.9	167
Donskoi Smyrna, etc.	do.	0.6	1.0	1.3	1.8	1.0	1.3	1.6	1.8	100
Duty-free	do.	35.3	43.2	50.3	59.4	54.1	64.2	71.1	88.3	149
Donskoi, Smyrna, etc.	do.	22.5	27.7	32.6	39.3	27.5	33.0	37.1	45.1	115
Not finer than 40's	do.	12.8	15.5	17.7	20.1	26.6	31.2	34.0	43.2	215
Imports, for consumption, actual weight										
Dutiable	do.	36.9	33.6	25.4	31.7	30.0	22.3	22.3	19.9	63
Duty-free	do	13.4	10.6	9.5	12.3	15.4	15.1	10.0	25.7	209
Mill consumption. scoured basis 3/										
Per week, during month 4/										
Apparel (domestic and duty-paid foreign)	1,000 pounds	5,876	6,277	6,779	6,335	7,298	7,849	7,818	6,445	102
60's and finer	do.	3,049	3,262	3,282	3,180	3,548	3,822	3,846	3,266	103
50's up to 60's	do.	2,028	2,207	2,567	2,308	2,757	2,936	2,961	2,469	107
48's and coarser	do.	799	808	930	847	993	1,091	1,011	710	84
Carpet (duty-free foreign)	do.	2,265	2,033	1,403	1,289	2,864	2,434	2,577	1,554	121
Accumulated since January 1										
Apparel (domestic and duty-paid foreign)	Million pounds	107.7	132.8	159.9	191.6	130.4	161.8	193.1	225.3	118
60's and finer	do.	57.9	70.9	84.1	100.0	65.8	81.0	96.5	112.7	113
50's up to 60's	do.	36.9	45.8	56.0	67.6	47.2	59.0	70.8	83.2	123
48's and coarser	do.	12.9	16.1	19.8	24.0	17.4	21.8	25.8	29.4	122
Carpet (duty-free foreign)	do.	42.2	50.4	56.0	62.4	53.5	63.2	73.5	81.3	130
Woven wool fabric production 5/	Million linear									
Accumulated since January 1	yards									
Apparel fabrics				145.5				151.8		104
Government orders	do.			39.7				12.5		31
Men's and boys' wear	do.			51.4				72.2		140
Women's and children's wear	do.			54.4				67.1		123
Non-apparel fabrics	do.			22.1				25.4		115
Blanketing	do.			12.2				14.0		115
Other non-apparel fabrics	do.			9.9				11.4		115
Total woven fabrics	do.			167.6				177.2		106

1/ Preliminary.
2/ Includes carbonized wool which is not reported by grade.
3/ Excludes wool consumed on the cotton and other spinning system and in the manufacture of felts, hat bodies, and other miscellaneous products.
4/ Monthly periods are 4 or 5 calendar weeks generally totaling 13 weeks each quarter.
5/ Principally wool, reprocessed wool, or reused wool by weight.

Compiled from reports of the Bureau of the Census.

ANNUAL STATISTICAL SUMMARY

Part I - Prices

Item	Unit	Average 1935-39	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953 1/
Average price received by farmers, grease basis	Cents per pound	23.9	42.3	42.0	49.2	49.4	62.1	97.0	53.3	53.0- 55.0
Boston market prices, clean basis 2/										
Domestic wool										
Graded territory										
Fine good French combing and staple	do.	84.4	102.6	124.2	164.6	166.4	199.2	270.5	165.3	167.5-177.5
1/2 blood good French combing and staple	do.	80.5	99.8	118.8	145.5	147.0	178.2	246.0	147.6	147.5-157.5
3/8 blood good French combing and staple	do.	71.9	91.4	107.0	107.6	112.8	151.0	215.2	128.7	127.5-137.5
1/4 blood good French combing and staple	do.	66.6	88.2	100.6	99.3	100.1	134.3	202.3	120.4	117.5-127.5
Low 1/4 blood	do.	60.9	75.6	89.2	88.1	92.5	116.2	183.7	103.5	97.5-107.5
Common and braid	do.	56.0	75.0	82.2	80.7	87.5	110.9	176.5	98.4	92.5-102.5
Graded fleece										
Delaine	do.	84.2	104.4	128.1	166.2	169.3	200.8	270.0	164.7	172.5-182.5
1/2 blood good French combing and staple	do.	77.5	97.6	117.2	131.1	146.6	170.5	233.9	142.7	140.0-150.0
3/8 blood good French combing and staple	do.	68.2	90.0	103.5	101.7	104.3	140.8	205.4	117.5	115.0-125.0
1/4 blood good French combing and staple	do.	60.8	87.5	98.4	95.7	97.0	131.7	191.7	109.7	107.5-117.5
Low 1/4 blood	do.	58.1	71.8	83.2	76.0	76.0	108.0	174.0	99.1	100.0-110.0
Common and braid	do.	53.7	73.6	78.2	71.0	71.0	102.8	167.5	93.3	90.0-100.0
Original bag Texas										
Fine 12 months good French combing and staple	do.	80.9	97.0	122.0	164.9	165.7	198.4	267.5	166.5	175.0-185.0
Fine 8 months (1" and over)	do.	74.1	88.2	106.1	123.3	133.6	166.1	226.0	148.6	160.0-170.0
Fine fall (3/4" and over)	do.	69.0	83.1	101.1	108.3	122.9	148.7	193.3	137.0	145.0-155.0
Imported wool, excluding duty										
Australian										
64's, 70's warp and 1/2 warp	do.	61.3	79.2	110.7	168.5	183.4	205.0	269.0	155.4	175.0-185.0
64's, 70's good topmaking	do.	58.7	76.1	102.9	159.9	170.3	198.7	259.1	150.0	170.0-180.0
64's combing	do.	57.4	71.0	98.4	154.6	164.4	192.0	250.0	144.6	165.0-175.0
58's, 60's combing	do.	53.7	63.6	84.7	138.2	138.6	168.6	234.2	133.0	142.5-152.5
Montevideo super										
0's (58's, 60's)	do.	52.3	72.7	85.8	123.4	120.8	155.4	253.0	125.2	120.0-130.0
1's (56's)	do.	48.3	68.0	77.6	108.8	103.0	136.4	225.4	111.8	102.5-112.5
2's (50's)	do.	43.2	64.6	72.1	93.7	88.3	119.9	199.8	100.3	95.0-105.0
3's (46's, 48's)	do.	36.8	51.8	57.0	71.8	71.5	104.2	167.1	81.9	85.0- 95.0
4's (44's)	do.	35.0	54.5	54.8	62.4	63.4	98.1	157.1	77.3	80.0- 90.0
5's (40's)	do.	32.6	51.0	49.8	57.2	58.9	97.6	153.2	76.2	80.0- 90.0
Other textile fibers										
Cotton, middling 15/16" 3/	do.	10.9	30.6	34.4	33.6	31.6	36.2	41.4	38.8	
Man-made synthetic staple fiber										
Viscose, 1-1/2 denier 4/	do.	28.3	25.4	31.9	36.4	35.8	36.1	40.0	39.5	
Acetate, 5 denier 4/	do.	---	39.1	47.9	48.0	42.0	42.5	48.0	42.4	
Nylon, 3 denier 5/	do.	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	
Dacron, 3, 4.5, and 6 denier 5/	do.	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	
Orlon, 3, 4.5, and 6 denier 5/	do.	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	
Acrilan, 3 and 5 denier 5/	do.	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	
Dynel, 2, 3, 6, 12, and 24 denier 5/	do.	---	---	---	---	---	125.0	125.0	127.3	
Vicara, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 7 denier 5/	do.	---	---	---	---	86.5	83.2	99.3	100.0	

1/ Indications as of October 1.
2/ From PMA Boston market reports.
3/ Average of 10 markets.
4/ From Textile Organon beginning 1952; from Bureau of Labor Statistics for earlier years.
5/ From Modern Textile Magazine.

ANNUAL STATISTICAL SUMMARY
Part II - Supplies and Mill Activity

Item	Unit	Average 1935-39	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953 1/
Production (grease)	Million pounds	424.0	342.2	308.0	278.4	248.5	247.8	251.4	266.0	
Shorn	do.	358.5	280.9	251.4	231.8	212.9	215.4	225.5	232.4	229.3
Pulled	do.	65.5	61.3	56.6	46.6	35.6	32.4	25.9	33.6	
Reported stocks, April 1, scoured basis 2/										
Apparel wool	do.	109.2	421.4	404.2	346.5	199.3	143.2	130.2	130.8	163.1
Domestic	do.	76.6	231.9	244.6	216.2	124.4	72.4	35.6	55.7	98.8
Foreign	do.	32.6	189.5	159.6	130.3	74.9	70.8	94.6	75.1	64.3
Carpet wool	do.	31.9	70.1	93.5	82.7	62.0	54.5	45.0	34.0	42.0
Imports for consumption, clean content										
Dutiable 3/	do.	56.0	473.0	259.3	246.2	154.9	250.1	272.0	248.4	225-275
Finer than 56's	do.	34.8	311.3	182.8	182.9	120.5	187.2	208.7	162.0	
44's-56's	do.		86.9	36.3	35.8	18.3	35.6	37.3	47.4	
40's-44's	do.	4.9	23.4	14.2	10.4	6.6	11.4	6.5	17.1	
Not finer than 40's	do.	10.6	45.3	24.3	16.3	8.8	13.7	16.3	18.1	
Donskoi, Smyrna, etc.	do.	5.7	2.0	1.0	0.4	0.5	1.7	1.8	3.2	
Duty-free	do.	95.9	170.0	140.0	232.8	117.6	216.7	89.2	118.6	125-150
Donskoi, Smyrna, etc.	do.	93.1	85.9	77.2	112.0	61.1	115.1	61.6	75.5	
Not finer than 40's	do.	2.8	84.1	62.8	120.8	56.5	101.6	27.6	43.1	
Imports for consumption, actual weight										
Dutiable 3/	do.	90.4	811.9	438.8	416.3	262.3	402.0	430.6	379.7	350-450
Finer than 56's	do.	59.5	572.9	325.3	320.8	210.5	310.4	338.5	257.8	
44's-56's	do.		130.5	54.4	55.2	28.0	51.9	54.0	66.0	
40's-44's	do.	7.2	33.0	19.7	14.6	9.5	16.2	9.0	23.4	
Not finer than 40's	do.	15.6	68.4	37.3	24.6	13.4	20.4	24.8	27.4	
Donskoi, Smyrna, etc.	do.	8.1	2.8	1.2	0.7	0.8	2.5	2.8	4.6	
Duty-free	do.	133.7	242.2	202.3	341.3	172.5	315.1	126.1	165.3	175-225
Donskoi, Smyrna, etc.	do.	129.6	123.0	110.9	160.0	85.9	163.2	83.2	100.7	
Not finer than 40's	do.	4.1	119.2	91.4	181.3	86.6	151.9	42.9	64.6	
Mill consumption, scoured basis 4/										
Apparel (domestic and duty-paid foreign)	do.	281.1	609.6	525.9	485.2	339.0	436.9	382.1	346.8	350-400
60's and finer	do.	---	334.4	327.2	303.4	185.1	246.0	223.9	177.4	
50's up to 60's	do.	---	190.6	134.6	130.7	120.1	150.9	125.1	124.2	
48's and coarser	do.	---	84.6	64.1	51.1	33.8	40.0	33.1	45.2	
Carpet (duty-free foreign)	do.	96.0	127.9	172.3	207.9	161.4	197.9	102.0	119.6	125-150
Woven wool fabric production 5/	Million linear yards									
Apparel fabric		---	524.2	448.4	434.3	351.2	358.9	316.4	308.0	
Government orders		---	1.0	10.1	11.1	17.2	10.1	103.9	63.7	
Men's and boys' wear		---	481.7	222.6	197.1	142.1	174.5	105.1	108.7	
Women's and children's wear		---		179.1	194.0	165.4	174.3	107.4	135.6	
Kind unspecified		---	41.5	36.6	32.1	26.5	---	---	---	
Non-apparel fabrics		---	79.5	67.4	63.3	63.2	69.6	59.0	43.4	
Blanketing		---	48.5	29.2	21.4	22.5	19.1	31.4	24.3	
Other non-apparel fabrics		---	31.0	38.2	41.9	40.7	50.5	27.6	19.1	
Total woven fabrics		---	603.7	515.8	497.6	414.4	428.5	375.4	351.4	

1/ Indications as of October 1. 2/ Includes wool held on consignment, wool in process of manufacture up to the carding operation and wool held in bond, but excludes wool held by the Commodity Credit Corporation for the Department of Defense and wool held by or for the account of growers. 3/ Includes a small quantity of carbonized wool which was not reported by class and grade, but excludes wool entered free as an act of international courtesy. 4/ For 1935-41 inclusive, Donskoi, Smyrna, and similar wools without merino or English blood are reported as carpet wool and all other wools, both free and dutiable, are reported as apparel wool; beginning 1942, all duty-free wools are reported as carpet wool and all dutiable wools are reported as apparel wool. Includes consumption on the cotton and other systems of spinning prior to 1946 and in batting and felt manufactures prior to 1947; for 1947 and later years includes only consumption on the woolen and worsted systems. Prior to 1942, wool was considered as consumed when carded or otherwise advanced beyond scouring or raw stock dyeing; beginning January 1942, wool was considered as consumed (1) on the woolen system when laid in mixes and (2) on the worsted system when entering scouring bowls; beginning August 1948, consumption on the worsted system is taken as the sum of top and noil production. 5/ Prior to 1950, 25 percent or more wool, reprocessed wool, or reused wool by weight; principally wool, reprocessed wool, or reused wool by weight for 1950 and later years.

Stock, import, consumption, and fabric production data compiled from reports of U. S. Department of Commerce.

Table 1.- Prices of good fleece wools at the London auctions, in cents and pence per pound, clean basis (Bradford yield), by months, 1950-53

Week ended 1/	Good medium fleeces 64's-70's	Good medium fleeces 64's-70's	Fine Crossbred fleeces 56's	Fine Crossbred fleeces 56's	Crossbred fleeces 46's	Crossbred fleeces 46's
	Cents	Pence	Cents	Pence	Cents	Pence
1950						
January 27	173.9	149.0	114.4	98.0	70.0	60.0
February 10	158.7	136.0	95.7	82.0	60.7	52.0
March 16	158.7	136.0	93.4	80.0	63.0	54.0
March 31	170.4	146.0	102.7	88.0	70.0	60.0
May 5	177.4	152.0	110.9	95.0	75.9	65.0
May 19	184.4	158.0	114.4	98.0	79.4	68.0
July 6	184.4	158.0	114.4	98.0	80.5	69.0
July 21	198.4	170.0	123.7	106.0	89.9	77.0
September 22	285.9	245.0	198.4	170.0	166.9	143.0
October 6	262.6	225.0	186.7	160.0	152.9	131.0
November 24	282.4	242.0	200.7	172.0	179.7	154.0
December 8	293.9	252.0	227.4	195.0	191.3	164.0
1951						
February 2	355.9	305.0	256.7	220.0	221.7	190.0
February 16	364.1	312.0	280.1	240.0	228.7	196.0
April 6	350.1	300.0	256.7	220.0	210.1	180.0
April 20	2/	2/	245.1	210.0	210.1	180.0
June 5	309.2	265.0	198.4	170.0	145.9	125.0
July 13	221.7	190.0	2/	2/	116.7	100.0
July 20	221.7	190.0	147.0	126.0	119.0	102.0
September 21	145.8	125.0	98.0	84.0	78.1	67.0
October 4	204.1	175.0	139.9	120.0	101.5	87.0
December 5	175.0	150.0	112.0	96.0	85.2	73.0
December 14	178.4	153.0	113.1	97.0	88.6	76.0
1952						
January 25	162.2	140.0	95.0	82.0	81.1	70.0
February 8	165.7	143.0	98.5	85.0	81.1	70.0
March 21	147.3	126.0	79.5	68.0	57.3	49.0
April 3	147.5	126.0	72.6	62.0	51.5	44.0
May 16	163.5	140.0	91.1	78.0	64.2	55.0
May 23	166.3	143.0	91.9	79.0	64.0	55.0
July 18	181.1	156.0	104.5	90.0	78.9	68.0
July 25	174.2	150.0	96.4	83.0	76.6	66.0
September 19	164.6	142.0	91.6	79.0	74.2	64.0
September 26	171.7	148.0	99.8	86.0	76.6	66.0
November 28	175.1	150.0	108.6	93.0	84.0	72.0
December 12	177.6	152.0	107.5	92.0	81.8	70.0
1953						
January 16	185.2	158.0	107.8	92.0	84.4	72.0
January 23	183.0	156.0	93.9	80.0	75.1	64.0
February 20	190.3	162.0	101.0	86.0	78.7	67.0
March 20	193.5	165.0	107.9	92.0	84.4	72.0
March 27	197.1	168.0	107.9	92.0	89.1	76.0
May 8	202.7	173.0	110.2	94.0	89.1	76.0
May 15	211.1	180.0	110.2	94.0	89.1	76.0
July 10	201.8	172.0	103.2	88.0	83.3	71.0
July 24	197.1	168.0	106.8	91.0	85.7	73.0
September 18	188.9	162.0	110.8	95.0	89.8	77.0
October 2	192.5	165.0	114.3	98.0	93.3	80.0

1/ Opening and closing weeks for each series.
2/ No quotations.

Compiled from Kreglinger and Fernau Market reports. Prices converted from pence to cents at current rates of exchange.

Table 2.- Prices of domestic shorn wool at Boston, clean basis, for week ended October 16, 1953 with comparisons

Classification	1950 week ended June 23	1951 week ended Mar. 16	1952 week ended Apr. 18	1953 week ended Oct. 16	Percent change week ended October 16, 1953, from week ended June 23 1950	March 16 1951	April 18 1952
	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents			
Graded shorn							
Territory and Texas							
Fine, good French combing and staple	176.0	380.0	157.5	172.5	- 2.0	- 54.6	+ 9.5
1/2 blood, good French combing and staple	158.5	345.0	135.0	152.5	- 3.8	- 55.8	+13.0
3/8 blood, good French combing and staple	139.5	315.0	120.0	132.5	- 5.0	- 57.9	+10.4
1/4 blood, good French combing and staple	122.5	300.0	110.0	120.5	- 1.6	- 59.8	+ 9.5
Low 1/4 blood	97.5	260.0	97.5	102.5	+ 5.1	- 60.6	+ 5.1
Common and braid	92.5	255.0	92.5	97.5	+ 5.4	- 61.8	+ 5.4
Fleece							
Fine, Delaine	182.5	380.0	160.0	182.5	0	- 52.0	+14.1
1/2 blood, good French combing and staple	158.5	330.0	130.0	147.5	- 7.0	- 55.3	+13.5
3/8 blood, good French combing and staple	127.5	290.0	110.0	120.0	- 5.9	- 58.6	+ 9.1
1/4 blood, good French combing and staple	122.5	275.0	105.0	114.5	- 6.5	- 58.4	+ 9.0
Low 1/4 blood	102.5	245.0	95.0	106.0	+ 3.4	- 56.7	+11.6
Common and braid	97.5	240.0	87.5	95.0	- 2.6	- 60.4	+ 8.6
Original bag shorn							
Fine Texas							
Good French combing and staple	174.5	380.0	157.5	182.5	+ 4.6	- 52.0	+15.9
Eight months (1 inch and over)	157.5	320.0	140.0	167.5	+ 6.3	- 47.7	+19.6
Fall (3/4 inch and over)	127.5	275.0	137.5	155.0	+21.6	- 43.6	+12.7

Compiled from market reports of the Production and Marketing Administration.

Table 3.- Market quotations and 1953 program loan rates per pound for domestic shorn wools, clean basis, Boston

Classification	1953 program loan rates	Boston quotations week ended October 16, 1953
	Dollars	Dollars
Graded shorn		
Territory and Texas		
Fine, good French combing and staple	1.63	1.70-1.75
Fine, average and good French combing	1.57	1.65-1.70
Fine, short French combing and clothing	1.42	1.52-1.55
½ blood, good French combing and staple	1.49	1.50-1.55
3/8 blood, good French combing and staple	1.29	1.30-1.35
¼ blood, good French combing and staple	1.20	1.18-123
Low ¼ blood	1.06	1.00-1.05
Common and braid	1.02	0.95-1.00
Fleece		
Fine, Delaine	1.64	1.80-1.85
Fine, short French combing and clothing	1.34	1.45-1.50
½ blood, good French combing and staple	1.44	1.45-1.50
3/8 blood, good French combing and staple	1.22	1.18-1.22
¼ blood, good French combing and staple	1.13	1.12-1.17
Low ¼ blood	1.01	1.04-1.08
Common and braid	0.97	0.92-0.98
Original bag shorn		
Fine Texas		
Good French combing and staple	1.63	1.80-1.85
Eight months (1 inch and over)	1.44	1.65-1.70
Fall (3/4 inch and over)	1.32	1.53-1.57

Compiled from reports of the Production and Marketing Administration

CCC Sale Prices Revised

Revised commercial sale prices for wool acquired by the Commodity Credit Corporation under the 1952 price support program became effective September 1. The revised sale prices are the higher of (1) the market value of the wool by grade as determined each week by the Department of Agriculture or (2) 103 percent of the appraisal value--the loan rate for shorn wool and the purchase price for pulled wool--plus sales commission.

The Commodity Credit Corporation acquired about 101 million pounds of wool under the 1952 program practically all of which is still held by CCC.

Grower Prices Up Slightly from Last Year

Prices received by domestic growers for shorn wool during the first 6 months of the current marketing season averaged slightly above last year, reflecting the generally higher level of world wool prices. The mid-month average was above a year earlier for each month except August when it was the same.

The mid-month averages for the first 4 months were above the national average loan rate of 53.1 cents, which is 1.1 cents below last year, but those for August and September, 53.0 and 52.9 cents, respectively, were just below. Prices for the season probably will average slightly above both last season and the national average loan rate.

Price support for wool will be available next year. The Agricultural Act of 1949 provides that the price of wool be supported at such level, between 60 and 90 percent of parity, as to encourage an annual production of approximately 360 million pounds of shorn wool. The support program probably will again be a factor in prices received for some wools.

About 41 Million Pounds of 1953 Wool Under Loan as of September 30

The Boston PMA office estimates that about 41.4 million pounds of 1953 shorn wool were under loan as of September 30. Advance or recourse loans were outstanding on 25.1 million pounds and nonrecourse loans on 16.3 million pounds.

United States Tariff Commission Holds Wool Investigation Under Section 22 of Agricultural Adjustment Act

The United States Tariff Commission recently held hearings in connection with "an investigation, under Section 22 of the Agricultural Adjustment Act, as amended, and Executive Order No. 7233 of November 23, 1935, for the purpose of determining whether wool of the sheep subject to duty under paragraphs 1101 (a) and 1102 of the Tariff Act of 1930, carbonized wool of the sheep subject to duty under paragraph 1106 of the said act, or sheep's-wool tops subject to duty under the said paragraph 1106 are being or are practically certain to be imported into the United States under such conditions and in such quantities as to render or tend to render ineffective or materially interfere with the price-support program for wool undertaken by the United States Department of Agriculture or to reduce substantially the amount of products processed in the United States for domestic wool."

No decision has been reached as yet.

World Production at Record Levels

The Foreign Agricultural Service of U. S. D. A. forecasts world production of wool (apparel and carpet) for the 1953-54 season at 4,330 million pounds, grease basis, or about 2,500 million pounds, clean basis (table 4). The forecast for 1953-54 exceeds the record 1952-53 output of 4,290 million pounds, which was 270 million pounds over 1951-52. The record output last season was about 3 percent larger than the previous record of 1942-43 and about one-tenth over the prewar average. On a clean basis, however, the increase over prewar is almost one-fifth. The larger increase on a clean than on a grease basis reflects the much larger increase in production of crossbred than other wools. The clean yield of wool generally is inversely related to the degree of fineness.

Output in Australia, New Zealand, and Uruguay is now at record levels. Output in the Union of South Africa, however, is about one-fifth below the record of 1932-33 and in Argentina is about one-sixth below the peak reached in 1943 and again in 1946. Australia and the Union of South Africa are predominantly merino wool producers. About half of the Uruguayan clip consists of merino wool. Argentina and New Zealand produce mostly crossbred wools.

Domestic Wool Production to be Lower Next Year

Indications are that a little less wool will be produced in the United States next year. The rate of sheep and lamb slaughter during the first 8 months of this year was almost 18 percent over last year, indicating a probable reduction in stock sheep numbers and in output of shorn wool next year. If slaughter declines next year as now appears likely, pulled wool production also would be down.

Table 4.- Production of wool in specified countries, grease basis, 1948-53

Country	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953 1/
	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.
Argentina	419.0	415.0	430.0	420.0	420.0	430.0
Australia	1,031.0	1,110.0	1,092.0	1,052.4	1,240.0	1,250.0
New Zealand	367.0	390.0	390.0	406.7	413.4	418.0
Union of South Africa	219.0	217.5	227.5	240.0	245.0	250.0
United States	278.4	248.5	247.8	251.4	266.0	260.0
Uruguay	144.0	163.3	185.0	187.4	190.0	195.0
Other countries	1,311.6	1,345.7	1,397.7	1,462.1	1,515.6	1,527.0
Estimated world total	3,770.0	3,890.0	3,970.0	4,020.0	4,290.0	4,330.0

1/ Preliminary.

Compiled from reports of the Foreign Agricultural Service.

Table 5.- Exports of wool, actual weight, from Southern Hemisphere surplus-producing countries, 1950-51, 1951-52 and 1952-53 seasons 1/

Exporting country	1950-51	1951-52	1952-53
	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds
Argentina 2/	168	42	418
Australia 2/	1,022	906	1,067
New Zealand 2/	262	458	383
Union of South Africa 2/	197	214	217
Uruguay 3/	131	29	202

1/ Season beginning July 1 in British Dominions and season beginning October 1 in South America. 2/ Through June. 3/ Through July.

Compiled from reports of the Commonwealth Economic Committee.

Total production this year probably will be about the same as last year when 266 million pounds, grease basis, equivalent to about 127 million pounds, clean basis, were shorn and pulled. The quantity of wool shorn this year has been estimated at 229.3 million pounds, about 1 percent less than last year and about 41 percent less than the record of 1942. An increase in output of pulled wool associated with the larger slaughter this year will tend to offset the decline from last year in output of shorn wool.

1953-54 Exports from Southern Hemisphere Likely to be Lower

Total exports of wool from the five major surplus-producing countries of the Southern Hemisphere--Argentina, Australia, New Zealand, Union of South Africa, and Uruguay--during 1952-53 were substantially above both 1951-52 and 1950-51 (table 5). The increase resulted from larger exports from Argentina, Australia, and Uruguay. Exports from the Union of South Africa were about the same, but exports from New Zealand were down.

The increase in exports from Australia reflected the large increase in production. The increase from the two South American countries, equivalent to almost a normal season's shipments, reflects the sale and shipment during 1952-53 of the bulk of the 1951-52 clips as well as the 1952-53 clips of those countries.

The quantity of wool available for export from these Southern Hemisphere countries during the 1953-54 season is expected to be somewhat smaller than during 1952-53. Although an increase in production is expected, it is not likely to be sufficient to offset the sharp reduction in carryover in those countries.

Table 6.- Percentage distribution of United States imports of wool by country of origin, January-June 1951-53

Country	Duty-free			Dutiable			Total		
	1951	1952	1953	1951	1952	1953	1951	1952	1953
	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.
Australia	0.1	1/	0.1	37.7	46.6	27.0	26.9	32.9	16.1
New Zealand	2.8	23.0	12.2	6.4	22.4	11.6	5.4	22.6	11.9
Union of South Africa	0.5	0.2	0.4	8.9	13.0	6.4	6.5	9.2	4.0
Argentina	30.5	14.1	45.9	12.1	6.4	31.7	17.4	8.7	37.5
Uruguay	0.2	0.1	0.1	28.8	7.2	19.3	20.5	5.1	11.5
Other countries	65.9	62.6	41.3	6.1	4.4	4.0	23.3	21.5	19.0
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

1/ Less than 0.05.

Compiled from reports of U. S. Department of Commerce.

Table 7.- Estimated world production and consumption of wool, clean basis, 1934-38 average, 1946-53

	1934-38 average	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953
	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.
Production 1/	2,058	2,100	2,125	2,100	2,153	2,202	2,283	2,301	2/2,435
Consumption	2,058	2,259	2,443	2,552	2,440	2,675	2,265	2/2,305	

1/ Production during the season beginning July 1 of the previous calendar year.
2/ Preliminary.

Compiled from reports of the Commonwealth Economic Committee.

Imports of Dutiable Wool Continue Below Last Year

Imports of dutiable wool for consumption during the first quarter of 1953 were up about 4 percent over last year; however, the total for the next four months was about one-fourth below last year. The total for the first 7 months, 186 million pounds, actual weight, or 116 million pounds, clean, was almost 18 percent below last year. Consumption was up substantially, and the lower imports reflect the larger movement of domestic wool into manufacturing channels early this season than last as well as a reduction in trade stocks.

All of the decline in imports was in wool finer than 40's which were down about one-fourth. Imports of 40's and coarser wools for consumption were more than one and one-half times those of the first 7 months of 1952.

A much larger proportion of imports of dutiable wools this year has been of South American origin than last year (table 6). Imports from Argentina and Uruguay accounted for 51 percent of the total compared with only 14 percent last year and 41 percent in 1951. Australia, which supplied 38 percent in early 1951 and 47 percent last year, supplied only 27 percent during the first half of this year.

Imports of Duty-free Wool
Substantially Above Last Year

Imports of duty-free wool for consumption through July totaled 131 million pounds, actual weight, or 88 million pounds, clean. The increase over last year, over one-half, reflects the increased consumption of wool in the manufacture of floor coverings.

Imports of duty-free wools not finer than 40's were about double last year while imports of duty-free "named" wools were up about one-seventh.

Argentine wools accounted for 46 percent of the wool which entered duty-free during the first half of this year. Imports from Argentina represented only 14 percent in 1952 and 31 percent in 1951.

World Consumption Up
From Last Year

World consumption of wool during the second quarter of this year is estimated by the Commonwealth Economic Committee to have exceeded that of the first quarter by about 1 percent. This estimate is based on data for 11 of the major consuming countries. The quarterly increase was the seventh in succession since the post-Korean low of the third quarter of 1951. As during the previous two quarters, consumption is estimated to have been at an annual rate in excess of production during the 1952-53 season. Indications are that total world stocks on July 1 probably were a little lower than a year earlier--the reduction in the major exporting countries probably was somewhat greater than the increase in total stocks in consuming countries.

Total world consumption during the first half of this year was almost one-third above the same period of last year, about one-tenth over the first half of 1951, and less than one-tenth below 1950.

World consumption in 1952 is estimated at 2,305 million pounds, clean basis, about 2 percent over 1951, but about 14 percent below the record consumption of 1950 (table 7).

Table 8 .- Weekly rate of consumption of apparel and carpet wool on woolen and worsted systems, scoured basis, United States, by months, 1950-53

Classification	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds
1950												
Apparel	8,006	8,837	8,518	7,943	8,268	8,084	7,370	9,901	9,015	9,671	7,871	7,393
Carpet	3,974	3,977	3,989	4,208	4,097	3,725	2,448	3,989	3,710	4,223	3,712	3,638
Total	11,980	12,814	12,507	12,151	12,365	11,809	9,818	13,890	12,725	13,894	11,583	11,031
1951												
Apparel	8,192	7,496	7,020	8,754	8,609	8,541	6,282	7,320	6,912	6,360	6,368	6,300
Carpet	3,416	3,410	3,268	2,507	1,807	1,622	413	1,040	1,069	1,556	1,663	1,761
Total	11,608	10,906	10,288	11,261	10,416	10,163	6,695	8,360	7,981	7,916	8,031	8,061
1952												
Apparel	5,904	6,218	5,971	5,876	6,277	6,779	6,335	7,621	7,784	7,656	7,120	6,725
Carpet	2,261	2,513	2,385	2,265	2,033	1,403	1,289	2,305	2,730	2,648	2,824	3,029
Total	8,165	8,731	8,356	8,141	8,310	8,182	7,624	9,926	10,514	10,304	9,944	9,754
1953												
Apparel	6,872	7,391	7,500	7,298	7,849	7,818	6,445					
Carpet	2,738	3,164	3,203	2,864	2,434	2,577	1,554					
Total	9,610	10,555	10,703	10,162	10,283	10,395	7,999					

Compiled from reports of the Bureau of the Census.

Table 9.- Percentage distribution of apparel wool consumption, by grades, January-July 1946-53

Grade	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953
	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.
60's and finer	54.6	61.1	63.7	54.4	56.9	58.6	52.2	50.1
50's up to 60's	31.3	25.9	25.7	35.6	33.7	32.3	35.3	36.9
48's and coarser	14.1	13.0	10.6	10.0	9.4	9.1	12.5	13.0
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Derived from reports of the Bureau of the Census.

Table 10.- Percentage distribution of apparel wool consumption on woolen and worsted systems, United States, January-July, 1946-53

System	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953
	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.
Worsted	57.5	63.7	66.2	58.2	67.0	62.9	52.6	59.0
Woolen	42.5	36.3	33.8	41.8	33.0	37.1	47.4	41.0
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Derived from reports of the Bureau of the Census.

Mill use of Apparel Wool Continues Above Last Year

Mills in the United States consumed 225 million pounds, scoured basis, of apparel wool during January-July of this year. The quantity consumed was almost one-fifth over last year but about 7 percent below 1951 and 8 percent below 1950 (table 8). The increase over last year reflects an increase in the use of wool for civilian goods. The use of wool for military items has been declining since the post-Korean peak of the third quarter of 1951.

The increase over a year earlier was considerably less for fine than for other wools. Consumption of 48's and coarser wools was up about 22 percent; of 50's up to 60's, about 23 percent; but of 60's and finer, only about 13 percent.

The proportion of the total accounted for by 60's and finer wool, 50 percent, was the lowest since World War II (table 9). The proportion represented by 50's up to 60's was the highest since World War II.

Table 11.- Percentage distribution of fibers consumed for spinning of carpet and rug yarns on the woolen and worsted systems, United States, by months, 1950-53

Fiber	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Year
	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.
Total													
1950	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1951	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1952	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1953	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0						
Shorn and pulled wool of the sheep													
1950	80.3	80.3	81.2	81.6	81.6	79.1	75.5	78.4	78.5	76.8	74.7	74.2	79.2
1951	73.9	71.4	72.5	63.0	54.6	52.0	38.7	56.2	57.4	65.5	64.5	69.8	64.5
1952	71.1	73.8	72.0	72.4	70.9	74.5	75.1	78.5	75.2	74.2	75.5	73.9	73.8
1953	74.1	73.9	75.1	77.0	73.4	74.4	74.7						
Other wool 1/													
1950	3.4	3.8	3.4	3.0	3.1	3.8	3.1	4.6	3.2	3.3	3.1	2.7	3.4
1951	2.5	2.8	3.3	3.5	3.6	3.6	3.7	2.8	2.1	2.4	2.0	3.7	3.0
1952	2.7	2.1	3.2	3.8	4.3	2.4	2.4	2.3	4.0	4.3	4.6	4.2	3.5
1953	4.1	5.3	4.9	5.0	4.2	6.2	4.5						
Reused and reprocessed wool 1/													
1950	10.8	9.2	9.7	9.4	9.2	10.1	11.5	8.7	9.8	9.7	10.2	8.7	9.7
1951	9.2	9.6	8.9	9.1	9.2	8.5	13.1	5.0	8.5	6.8	7.3	5.8	8.5
1952	6.8	5.9	4.7	4.8	5.9	8.4	10.4	6.2	5.9	5.6	4.4	4.6	5.9
1953	5.0	4.0	3.2	2.8	5.6	4.7	6.7						
Rayon (staple and other)													
1950	2.4	4.0	3.0	3.4	3.8	4.5	5.5	5.7	5.8	7.2	9.4	12.3	5.6
1951	11.7	13.8	13.4	22.0	29.4	31.9	37.1	31.4	27.7	21.5	22.3	17.5	20.8
1952	17.4	15.8	18.6	17.6	17.2	12.2	9.6	11.5	13.2	14.2	14.0	16.1	15.1
1953	15.6	15.8	15.7	14.1	15.5	13.7	13.1						
Other fiber													
1950	3.1	2.7	2.7	2.6	2.3	2.5	4.4	2.6	2.7	3.0	2.6	2.1	2.1
1951	2.7	2.4	1.9	2.4	3.2	4.0	7.4	4.6	4.3	3.8	3.9	3.2	3.2
1952	2.0	2.4	1.5	1.4	1.7	2.5	2.5	1.5	1.7	1.7	1.5	1.2	1.7
1953	1.2	1.0	1.1	1.1	1.3	1.0	1.0						

1/ As defined in the Wool Products Labeling Act of 1939. Derived from reports of the Bureau of the Census.

The worsted system accounted for about 59 percent of the total compared with 53 percent the first 7 months of last year and 64 percent the year before (table 10).

Carpet Wool Consumption Also Continues Above Last Year

Mill use of carpet wool during January-July, about 81 million pounds, was about 30 percent above last year and about 13 percent over 1951. However, it was almost one-third below early 1950.

Raw wool accounted for 75 percent of the total quantity of fiber reported as consumed by woolen and worsted mills in the spinning of carpet yarn during January-July compared with 73 percent last year, 65 percent in 1951, and 81 percent in 1950 (table 11).

Woolen and Worsted Yarn Output Up from Last Year

Woolen and worsted mills produced 366 million pounds of yarn, regardless of fiber content, during the first half of this year. This compares with 327 million pounds during the same period of 1952 and with 392 million pounds in 1951 (table 12).

Of the total, 84 million pounds were carpet yarn. The quantities produced during the same months of 1952 and 1951 were 65 and 91 million pounds. The weekly rate of spinning during June, 11.9 million pounds, was the highest since June 1951 (table 13).

Output of yarn other than carpet totaled 282 million pounds, about 8 percent above last year but 6 percent less than in 1951 and 3 percent less than in 1950. Output of woolen yarn was up only 3 percent but output of worsted yarn was up 16 percent. Compared with 1951, however, worsted yarn was down 11 percent while woolen yarn was down only 3 percent.

Woolen and Worsted Fabric Output Up Slightly Over Last Year

Output of woolen and worsted woven fabric (fabric principally wool, reprocessed wool, or reused wool) during the first half of this year amounted to 177 million finished linear yards (table 14). During the same periods of 1952 and 1951, 168 and 198 million yards were produced.

Apparel fabric accounted for 152 million yards or 86 percent of the total. Government orders, which were down almost 70 percent from last year, accounted for about 8 percent of the apparel fabric (table 15). The percentage was 27 percent in 1952, 22 percent in 1951, and about 3 percent in 1950.

Output of civilian apparel fabric was up almost one-third from a year earlier and about one-twentieth from 1951. The increase over last year reflected increases of about two-fifths for men's and boys' wear fabric and of almost one-fourth for women's and children's wear fabric. Relative to the first half of 1951, however, men's and boys' wear fabric was up about 3 percent and women's and children's wear fabric about one-tenth.

Table 12.- Yarns spun on the woolen and worsted systems in the United States, January-June, 1950-53

Yarn	January-June				Percentage change 1953 from 1952
	1950	1951	1952	1953	
	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	Percent
Carpet	102,540	90.659	64,938	83,547	+ 28.7
Other than carpet	290,566	301,337	261,606	282,430	+ 8.0
Worsted	115,092	123,882	94,374	109,730	+ 16.3
Woolen	175,474	177,455	167.232	172,700	+ 3.3

Compiled from reports of the Bureau of the Census

Table 13.- Weekly rate of spinning of yarn on woolen and worsted systems, United States, by months, 1950-53

Classification	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds
Carpet												
1950	3,840	3,945	4,034	4,239	4,122	3,978	2,579	4,162	3,830	4,408	4,029	4,020
1951	3,897	4,001	3,897	3,520	2,817	2,673	931	1,743	1,588	2,001	2,172	2,128
1952	2,492	2,885	2,860	2,580	2,612	1,605	1,357	2,509	3,076	3,106	3,269	3,431
1953	3.022	3,515	3,498	3,338	2,382	3,042						
Other than carpet												
1950	10,540	11,298	11,219	10,971	11,813	11,750	10,339	13,451	12,660	13,187	11,393	11,226
1951	11,729	11,123	10,556	11,807	12,003	12,227	9,157	11,260	10,384	10,190	10,531	9,965
1952	9,807	10,758	10,054	9,546	10,300	11,146	9,805	11,638	11,797	11,727	11,179	10,397
1953	9,890	10,772	10,987	10,509	11,499	11,851						

Compiled from reports of the Bureau of the Census.

Table 14 .- Woolen and worsted fabric production in the United States, January-June, 1951-53 1/

Fabric	January-June			Percentage change 1953 from	
	1951	1952	1953 2/	1951	1952
	1,000 linear yards	1,000 linear yards	1,000 linear yards	Percent	Percent
Woven fabric (except felt)	198,480	167,647	177,384	-10.6	+ 5.8
Apparel	167,870	145,542	151,688	- 9.6	+ 4.2
Woolen	82,077	88,109	93,755	+14.2	+ 6.4
Worsted	85,793	57,433	57,933	-32.5	+ 0.9
Government orders	36,140	39,671	12,478	-65.5	-68.6
Woolen	11,835	18,215	6,761	-42.9	-62.9
Worsted	24,305	21,456	5,717	-76.5	-73.4
Other than Government orders	131,730	105,871	139,210	+ 5.7	+31.5
Woolen	70,242	69,894	86,994	+23.8	+24.5
Worsted	61,488	35,977	52,216	-15.1	+45.1
Men's and boys'	69,725	51,410	72,103	+ 3.4	+40.3
Woolen	23,374	24,428	30,748	+31.5	+25.9
Worsted	46,351	26,982	41,355	-10.8	+53.3
Women's and children's	62,005	54,461	67,107	+ 8.2	+23.2
Woolen	46,868	45,466	56,246	+20.0	+23.7
Worsted	15,137	8,995	10,861	-28.2	+20.7
Non-apparel	30,610	22,105	25,696	-16.1	+16.2
Blanketing	13,311	12,172	14,290	+ 7.4	+17.4
Government orders	5,189	4,050	4,868	- 6.2	+20.2
Other than Government orders	8,122	8,122	9,422	+16.0	+16.0
Other non-apparel	17,299	9,933	11,406	-34.1	+14.8
	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds		
Woven felt	6,654	4,133	4,843	-27.2	+17.2

1/ Principally wool, reprocessed wool, or reused wool by weight. Blanketing in 72 inch width or equivalent. Other fabrics in 54 to 60 inch widths or equivalent 54 inch width.

2/ Preliminary.

Derived from reports of the Bureau of the Census.

Table 15.- Percent of woolen and worsted apparel fabric and blanketing produced toward Government orders, 1950-53

Type of fabric	1950	1951				1952				1953 1/	
		1st quarter	2nd quarter	3rd quarter	4th quarter	1st quarter	2nd quarter	3rd quarter	4th quarter	1st quarter	2nd quarter
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Apparel	2.6	12.3	31.2	50.6	41.1	30.9	23.4	17.8	11.9	11.2	5.5
Blanketing	2/	11.7	56.0	69.8	54.2	38.1	26.8	32.2	41.0	37.3	28.1

1/ Preliminary.
2/ Not available.

Derived from reports of the Bureau of the Census.

Table 16.- Percentage distribution of woven woolen and worsted apparel fabric production, United States, January-June, 1950-53

Fabric	January-June			
	1950	1951	1952	1953 1/
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Apparel	100	100	100	100
Woolen	51	49	61	62
Worsted	49	51	39	38
Government orders	100	100	100	100
Woolen	33	33	46	54
Worsted	67	67	54	46
Other than Government	100	100	100	100
Woolen	51	53	66	62
Worsted	49	47	34	38
Men's and boys'	100	100	100	100
Woolen	34	34	48	43
Worsted	66	66	52	57
Women's and children's	100	100	100	100
Woolen	70	76	83	84
Worsted	30	24	17	16

1/ Preliminary.

Derived from reports of the Bureau of the Census.

Output of civilian worsted fabric was up almost one-half from the first 6 months of 1952 while output of woolen fabric was up about one-fourth. Compared with 1951, however, worsteds were down almost one-sixth while woolens were up almost one-fourth. Worsteds accounted for 38 percent of civilian fabrics compared with 34 percent a year earlier (table 16).

Blanketing accounted for over half of the non-apparel fabric. Government orders accounted for about one-third of the blanketing.

In addition to the above yardage of woven fabric, woolen and worsted weavers produced almost 5 million pounds of woven felt, about one-sixth above last year but about one-fourth below 1951.

More Men's Tailored Clothing Cut This Year than Last

Substantial increases over last year are reported for all categories of men's tailored clothing. The increases for January-July ranged from almost one-fifth for overcoats and topcoats to almost one-third for summer-weight suits (table 17).

The changes relative to the first 7 months of 1951, however, are mixed. Overcoat and topcoat cuttings were down about 4 percent; regular-weight suit cuttings were about the same; cuttings of summer-weight suits were up almost one-tenth; and separate dress and sport trouser cuttings were up over one-third.

The proportions of total cuttings accounted for by wool fabric have trended sharply downward since 1946 (table 19). The proportions continued to decline in 1953 for regular-weight suits and separate dress and sport trousers (table 18). The proportion increased slightly, however, for summer-weight suits.

Production of Man-made Staple Fiber Increases

About 18.5 percent more man-made staple fiber was produced in the United States during the first half of this year than last year. Output of rayon staple was up 6 percent and of acetate staple about 15 percent. Almost twice as much non-cellulosic staple such as Nylon, Orlon, Dacron, Dynel, Vicara, Acrilan, X-51, etc., was produced.

Of the total of 195 million pounds, rayon staple accounted for 57 percent; acetate for 24 percent; and non-cellulosic staple for 19 percent. The percentages early last year were 64, 25, and 11.

Producers of these fibers are planning increases in production capacity equivalent to almost one-eighth of, two-thirds of, and 3.5 times 1952 capacity for acetate, rayon, and non-cellulosic staple, respectively, by late 1954. Combined output of rayon and acetate staple during 1952, 307 million pounds, was between 80 and 85 percent of capacity.

Table 17.- Cuttings of specified items of men's tailored clothing, United States, January-July 1951-53

Type of garment	Number of garments cut			Percentage change 1953 from	
	1951 (31 weeks)	1952 (31 weeks)	1953 (31 weeks)	1951	1952
	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Percent	Percent
Suits, total	12,856.2	10,670.1	13,259.0	+ 3.1	+24.3
Regular-weight	9,643.7	8,020.1	9,748.2	+ 1.1	+21.5
50 percent or more wool	8,995.7	7,353.1	8,854.9	- 1.6	+20.4
Other	648.0	667.0	893.3	+ 37.9	+33.9
Summer-weight	3,212.5	2,650.0	3,510.8	+ 9.3	+32.5
50 percent or more wool	1,175.2	731.8	976.5	- 16.9	+33.4
Rayon and other synthetics	2,037.3	1,918.2	2,534.3	+ 24.4	+32.1
Separate dress and sport trousers	24,280.3	26,449.6	33,028.9	+ 36.0	+24.9
50 percent or more wool	7,168.1	7,765.7	9,340.3	+ 30.3	+20.3
Chiefly rayon and other synthetics	15,780.5	17,135.1	20,714.1	+ 31.3	+20.9
Chiefly cotton	1,331.7	1,548.8	2,974.5	+123.4	+92.1
Overcoats and topcoats	3,370.2	2,711.4	3,234.4	- 4.0	+19.3

Compiled from reports of the Bureau of the Census.

Table 18.- Percentage distribution of cuttings of man's tailored clothing by fiber content and type of garment, United States, January-July 1951-53

	January-July		
	1951	1952	1953
	Percent	Percent	Percent
Suits			
Regular-weight	100.0	100.0	100.0
50 percent or more wool	93.3	91.7	90.8
Other	6.7	8.3	9.2
Summer-weight	100.0	100.0	100.0
50 percent or more wool	36.6	27.6	27.8
Rayon and other synthetics	63.4	72.4	72.2
Separate dress and sport trousers	100.0	100.0	100.0
50 percent or more wool	29.5	29.4	28.3
Chiefly rayon and other synthetics	65.0	64.8	62.7
Chiefly cotton	5.5	5.8	9.0

Derived from reports of the Bureau of the Census.

Table 19.- Cuttings of specified items of men's tailored clothing and percentage distribution by fiber content, United States, 1946-52

Type of garment	Unit	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952
Suits, total	1,000 units	23,135	25,723	23,412	19,497	23,695	19,491	19,306
Regular-weight	1,000 units	20,014	21,732	19,104	15,824	19,110	15,168	15,059
50 percent or more wool 1/	Percent	---	---	---	---	98.3	92.5	91.7
Other	Percent	---	---	---	---	1.7	7.5	8.3
Summer-weight	1,000 units	2,121	3,991	4,308	3,673	4,585	4,323	4,247
50 percent or more wool 1/	Percent	72.2	72.3	66.2	54.1	49.2	34.9	27.5
Cotton	Percent	(27.8	7.6	(33.8	(45.9	(50.8	(65.1	(72.5
Rayon	Percent	(	20.1	(	(	(	(	(
Separate dress and sport trousers	1,000 units	41,796	42,750	37,742	33,533	46,998	38,858	45,364
50 percent or more wool 1/	Percent	54.8	61.7	60.3	51.2	45.3	30.8	32.3
Rayon	Percent	26.0	24.5	29.3	39.8	48.6	63.5	61.7
Cotton	Percent	19.2	13.8	10.4	9.0	6.1	5.7	6.0
Separate coats	1,000 units	6,452	4,453	4,865	5,767	7,039	---	---
50 percent or more wool 1/	Percent	90.7	81.4	---	---	---	---	---
Cotton	Percent	7.3	16.5	---	---	---	---	---
Rayon	Percent	1.5	2.1	---	---	---	---	---
Overcoats and topcoats	1,000 units	7,941	7,233	6,194	5,628	6,550	5,514	5,312
Overcoats	1,000 units	---	---	---	---	---	1,335	1,002
Topcoats	1,000 units	---	---	---	---	---	4,179	4,310

1/ 25 percent or more wool prior to 1951.

Compiled from reports of the Bureau of the Census.

Table 20.- Cuttings of specified items of women's, misses', and juniors' outerwear and percentage distribution by fiber content, United States, 1946-52

Type of garment	Unit	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952
Dresses (unit-priced)	Thousands	134,185	127,592	134,951	154,366	139,607	138,558	139,766
Rayon and acetate	Percent	78.9	81.1	81.6	74.6	72.0	69.7	66.9
Cotton	Percent	13.8	10.9	13.6	19.7	21.3	23.5	24.8
Nylon	Percent	(					0.8	2.4
Wool	Percent	(7.3	8.0	4.8	5.7	6.7	3.6	3.7
Other	Percent	(					2.4	2.2
Skirts (dozen-priced)	Thousands	21,540	23,736	34,884	53,268	57,408	54,720	62,352
Rayon and acetate	Percent	25.7	44.4	51.1	47.2	41.9	44.6	43.6
Cotton	Percent	5.7	7.1	10.7	25.3	29.9	31.3	31.1
Nylon	Percent	(					0.8	0.5
Wool	Percent	(68.6	43.5	38.2	27.5	28.2	22.8	23.4
Other	Percent	(					.5	1.4
Suits (unit-priced)	Thousands	17,491	14,091	14,963	16,652	18,048	18,178	16,365
Rayon and acetate	Percent	9.5	11.1	20.1	34.4	41.6	59.7	62.5
Cotton	Percent	1.4	2.3	3.5	1.6	1.8	1.5	2.8
Wool	Percent	(89.1	86.6	76.4	64.0	56.6	37.8	33.9
Other	Percent	(					1.0	0.8
Untrimmed coats (unit-priced)	Thousands	20,139	18,690	22,936	23,571	22,598	21,995	23,338
Rayon and acetate	Percent	1.5	.9	1.2	3.8	9.5	22.1	13.1
Cotton	Percent	0.7	0.5	0.4	0.6	1.4	1.2	1.2
Wool	Percent	(97.8	98.6	98.4	95.6	89.1	76.5	85.5
Other	Percent	(					0.2	0.2
Fur-trimmed coats (unit-priced)	Thousands	1,685	1,923	2,368	2,044	2,105	1,907	1,717
Rayon and acetate	Percent						7.3	7.2
Cotton	Percent						(	(
Wool	Percent						(92.7	(92.8
Other	Percent						(	(

Compiled from reports of the Bureau of the Census.

Table 21.- Cuttings of specified women's outerwear garments in the United States, January-June, 1951-53

Type of garment	Number of garments cut			Percentage change 1953 from	
	1951	1952	1953	1951	1952
	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Percent	Percent
Fur-trimmed coats	321	272	298	- 7.2	+ 9.6
Untrimmed coats	10,732	10,885	10,476	- 2.4	- 3.8
Wool	7,623	8,816	9,155	+20.1	+ 3.8
Rayon and acetate	3,003	1,899	1,189	-60.4	-37.4
Other	106	170	132	+24.5	-22.4
Suits	9,949	8,901	7,917	-20.4	-11.1
Wool	3,623	2,767	2,744	-24.3	- 0.8
Rayon and acetate	6,022	5,758	4,690	-22.1	-18.6
Other	304	376	483	+58.9	+28.5
Skirts	26,976	29,040	33,804	+25.3	+16.4
Wool	3,828	3,960	4,008	+ 4.7	+ 1.2
Rayon and acetate	11,436	11,244	12,504	+ 9.3	+11.2
Other	11,712	13,836	17,292	+47.6	+25.0
Unit-priced dresses	80,348	81,321	76,117	- 5.3	- 6.4
Wool	1,065	595	1,097	+ 3.0	+84.4
Rayon and acetate	51,394	50,005	42,683	-17.0	-14.6
Other	27,889	30,721	32,337	+15.9	+ 5.3

Compiled from reports of the Bureau of the Census.

Table 22.- Percentage distribution of cuttings of specified women's outerwear garments by fiber content and type of garment, United States, January-June 1951-53

	1951	1952	1953
	Percent	Percent	Percent
Untrimmed coats	100.0	100.0	100.0
Wool	71.0	81.0	87.4
Rayon and acetate	28.0	17.4	11.3
Other	1.0	1.6	1.3
Suits	100.0	100.0	100.0
Wool	36.4	31.1	34.7
Rayon and acetate	60.5	64.7	59.2
Other	3.1	4.2	6.1
Skirts	100.0	100.0	100.0
Wool	14.2	13.6	11.9
Rayon and acetate	42.4	38.7	37.0
Other	43.4	47.7	51.1
Unit-priced dresses	100.0	100.0	100.0
Wool	1.3	0.7	1.4
Rayon and acetate	64.0	61.5	56.1
Other	34.7	37.8	42.5

Derived from reports of the Bureau of the Census.

The use of man-made fiber in the manufacture of items, particularly apparel, for which wool traditionally has been considered the most desirable fiber has increased sharply in recent years (tables 19, 20, 23, and 24).

The extent to which such fiber is used in the future in the manufacture of such items, is, of course, conjectural and will depend mainly upon relative prices, quality characteristics and consumer preference.

Cuttings of Women's Outerwear

Cuttings of women's untrimmed coats, suits, and unit-priced dresses during the first half of this year were below both last year and 1951 (table 21). The declines from 1952 ranged from 4 percent for untrimmed coats to 11 percent for suits. Skirt cuttings early this year, however, were about one-fourth above 1951 and about one-sixth above last year. Cuttings of fur-trimmed coats were down about 7 percent from 1951 but almost 10 percent above last year.

The proportion of such items cut from wool fabric trended downward after 1946 (table 20). The trend was reversed early this year, however, for suits and unit-priced dresses (table 22). The proportion for untrimmed coats began to increase last year and continued to increase this year. For skirts, however, the downtrend continued into this year.

MOHAIR

Production of mohair in the United States next year probably will be between 10.5 and 11 million pounds, grease basis, down somewhat from this year. Indications are that this year's clip is likely to be between 11 and 11.5 million pounds, compared with an estimated 12.1 million pounds last year.

Goat numbers and mohair production have declined sharply since 1945 when a record of 22 million pounds of hair was produced. Production last year was down about 45 percent from 1945. The number of goats on farms at the beginning of this year was down from a year earlier. The number of goats in Texas, which accounts for over 90 percent of the mohair produced, was down 8 percent. A further reduction appears to be taking place. Drought has caused some liquidation of herds. Federally-inspected slaughter of goats this year has been higher than last.

Dealer and manufacturer holdings of mohair on April 1, 4.2 million pounds, scoured basis, were about the same as a year earlier. Stocks of mohair at the beginning of the last 3 seasons have been low relative to earlier years.

Imported hair usually accounts for only a very small part of the mohair consumed in the United States; however, the proportion was unusually high during 1950-52. Imports, which were equivalent to less than 3 percent of consumption during 1945-49, were equivalent to about 13 percent during 1950-52. Imports of mohair for consumption during January-July this year amounted to 271 thousand pounds, actual weight, or 197 thousand pounds, clean, about one-fourth the quantity of the same period of the previous year. Imports for the year 1952 amounted to 1,942 thousand pounds, actual weight, or 1,433 thousand pounds, clean.

Table 23.- Percentage distribution of specified items of children's and infants' outerwear by fiber content, United States, 1948-51

Item	1948	1949 1/	1950	1951
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Coats (including capes and reversibles)	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Cotton	2.9	2.9	3.5	3.8
Rayon and acetate	2.6	2.9	8.0	15.5
Wool and other	94.5	94.2	88.5	80.7
Coat-and-legging and coat-and-snow pants	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Cotton	1.3	1.2	3.1	5.0
Rayon and acetate	---	0.1	1.4	5.8
Wool and other	98.7	98.7	95.5	89.2
Ski and snow suits	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Cotton	43.7	36.9	32.7	25.6
Rayon and acetate	9.3	15.6	30.8	42.6
Wool and other	47.0	47.5	36.5	31.8
Ski and snow pants and leggings	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Cotton	14.1	26.5	16.6	26.3
Rayon and acetate	---	0.1	1.6	0.7
Wool and other	85.9	73.4	81.8	73.0
Suits (except ski and snow suits and slack suits)	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Cotton	11.2	15.6	25.0	23.1
Rayon	---	16.3	33.2	55.2
Wool and other	88.8	68.1	41.8	21.7
Skirts	---	100.0	100.0	100.0
Cotton	---	36.8	40.7	40.1
Rayon and acetate	---	5.6	10.7	16.1
Wool and other	---	57.6	48.6	43.8
Slacks	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Cotton	77.6	82.0	83.6	84.2
Rayon and acetate	22.4	1.5	3.5	8.5
Wool and other		16.5	12.9	7.3
Slack suits	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Cotton	89.7	85.4	66.4	72.6
Rayon and acetate	10.3	3.8	10.0	13.3
Wool and other		10.8	23.6	14.1
Jackets	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Cotton	70.4	72.3	79.7	64.9
Rayon and acetate	---	0.5	8.5	23.1
Wool and other	29.6	27.2	11.6	12.0

1/ Derived from preliminary data.
Derived from reports of the Bureau of the Census.

Table 24.- Percentage distribution of production of sweaters, knit jackets, and jerseys, by fiber content and type, United States, 1948-51

Class and Product	1948	1949	1950	1951
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Men's	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
All wool	77.9	76.4	76.0	71.1
Part wool - 25 percent or more wool	6.9	6.5	9.3	10.3
Other	15.2	17.1	14.7	18.6
Women's				
Sweaters and jerseys	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
All wool	74.8	68.8	64.2	58.9
All nylon	25.2	31.2	28.7	31.4
Other			7.1	9.7
Cardigans	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
All wool	91.3	85.7	85.9	74.7
All nylon	8.7	14.3	7.8	15.7
Other			6.3	9.6
Boys'	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
All wool	73.7	69.2	64.7	47.4
Part wool - 25 percent or more wool	7.7	9.3	9.0	11.5
Other	18.6	21.5	26.3	41.1
Girls'	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
All wool	97.5	90.4	79.8	69.9
All nylon	2.5	9.6	16.9	24.5
Other			3.3	5.6
Children's	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
All wool	78.7	75.6	62.0	50.3
Other	21.3	24.4	38.0	49.7
Infants'	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
All wool	85.0	75.0	73.5	64.9
Other	15.0	25.0	26.5	35.1

Derived from reports of the Bureau of the Census.

STATISTICAL SUMMARY FOR MOHAIR

Item	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953
	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds
				SUPPLIES AND CONSUMPTION					
Production (grease basis) 1/	22,008	19,282	18,225	15,972	12,959	13,245	12,888	12,116	
Reported stocks April 1 (scoured basis) 2/	9,966	12,463	9,808	11,120	11,802	7,706	3,080	4,225	4,192
Imports for consumption (clean content) 3/	314	906	433	143	45	1,602	2,230	1,433	
Mill consumption (scoured basis) 4/	13,186	19,227	14,651	9,473	15,149	17,188	11,067	11,062	
				PRICES					
	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	
Average price received by farmers (grease basis) 5/	55.3	61.1	53.6	45.4	46.3	76.0	118.0	96.2	
Boston market prices (grease basis, Texas sorted)									
40's	118.5	120.0	142.2	139.1	137.9	167.3	257.8	201.8	
36's	108.5	108.6	128.7	111.3	108.0	150.4	242.0	186.5	
32's	93.5	95.0	113.9	94.2	92.1	126.5	220.0	173.9	
30's	81.2	82.2	91.2	77.4	76.5	111.4	202.2	156.7	
26's	66.0	68.5	73.5	62.8	60.0	96.6	172.1	135.6	
22's	56.0	58.2	67.8	52.8	49.6	87.1	152.5	109.4	
18's	48.5	48.6	53.7	41.4	40.1	79.5	144.0	99.4	

1/ Production in 7 leading States(Arizona, California, Missouri, New Mexico, Oregon, Texas, and Utah). 2/ Includes mohair held on consignment, foreign mohair held in bond, and mohair in process of manufacture up to the carding operation but excludes mohair held for the account of or by growers. 3/ Includes only mohair not advanced in any manner or by any process of manufacture beyond washed, scoured, or carbonized condition. 4/ Consumption of mohair, tops, noils, etc. for the spinning of yarn (except carpet) on the woolen and worsted systems. 5/ Weighted average.

Data on stocks, imports, and consumption compiled from reports of the Bureau of the Census; Boston market prices compiled from reports of the Production and Marketing Administration.

Woolen and worsted mills in the United States consumed 11.1 million pounds, scoured basis, of mohair last year, the same as the year before, but over one-third less than in 1950. Data on consumption on the woolen system are no longer reported; however, during January-June consumption on the worsted system, which usually accounts for about three-fifths of the total used by the two systems, was down about one-third from last year. The sharp fluctuations in both consumption and prices of mohair in the United States probably reflect the fact that mohair is a specialty fiber, demand for which is greatly influenced by style and fashion changes.

Indications are that prices received by growers for the 1953 clip will average slightly below last year. Prices received for the 1952 clip averaged 96.2 cents per pound, compared with $1.18 the year before and 76.0 cents in 1950. Early in October, prices at local shipping points for the Texas fall clip were reported at 78.5 cents per pound for adult and $1.035 for kid hair, compared with 92.5 cents and $1.175 a year earlier. Prices at local shipping points for this year's Texas spring clip ranged between 91.5 cents and $1.015 for adult and between $1.165 and $1.265 for kid. Prices for the 1952 spring clip ranged between 80 cents and $1.10 for adult hair and between $1.05 and $1.35 for kid hair.

The national average support level under the 1953 program is 60.7 cents per pound, grease basis, 80 percent of the March 15, 1953 parity price for mohair of 75.9 cents. This is the fourth year during which support has been available for mohair. However, since prices were above support levels, support operations were unnecessary under the 1950, 1951, and 1952 programs. It appears unlikely the current program will become active.

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